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Assembly
California Legislature



PEDRO NAVA
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-FIFTH DISTRICT

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COMMISSION
LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

May 2, 2007

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: West Campus Bluffs Trail (File No. 07-022) May 24, 2007 agenda

Dear Mr. Bosco:

As the California State Assemblymember for the 35th District, I would like to voice my strong support the reconstruction of the West Campus Bluffs Trail. This project would improve the half mile long trail that runs from Isla Vista to the Coal Oil Point Reserve.

The West Campus Bluffs Trail badly needs repair. Degradation and erosion of the trail are such that it will cease to be a usable trail unless it is reconstructed soon. This would be a saddening loss, since the West Campus Bluffs Trail is widely used by students, bicyclists, joggers, and nature lovers alike. The trail is important locally as well as regionally, since it is both a pedestrian path and a segment of the 1,200 mile long California Coastal Trail.

The completed project would take into account the needs of handicapped users. It would also cause minimal impact to the environment by avoiding sensitive animal habitat areas. Furthermore, the project has strong support, and some monetary contribution, from the students of the University of California, Santa Barbara. Thus, the trail benefits everyone. That is why I urge you to support this important project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A stylized handwritten signature of Pedro Nava, consisting of a large 'P' and 'N'.

Pedro Nava
Assemblymember, 35th District

PN:ng



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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

May 2, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman,
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco,

The West Campus Bluffs Trail (File No. 07-022), on the May 24, 2007 agenda for a \$175,000 grant to the Associated Students of the University of California, Santa Barbara, has the complete support of this office.

The West Campus Bluffs Trail is a spectacular segment of the California Coastal Trail. This heavily used trail provides a route for cyclists, pedestrians and joggers along the protected open space, the West Campus Nature Park, and connects Isla Vista with the Coal Oil Point Reserve.

I urge your support of this grant.

Sincerely,

Brooks Firestone
Supervisor, Third District



ISLA VISTA RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

961 EMBARCADERO DEL MAR ISLA VISTA, CA 93117

www.ivparks.org 805-968-2017 FAX 968-2829

May 2, 2007

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Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California, 94612

Re: West Campus Bluffs Trail (File No. 07-22) May 24, 2007 Agenda

Dear Chairman Bosco:

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Grounds Supervisor

The West Campus Bluffs Trail item on your agenda today for consideration of a \$175,000 grant from the Coastal Conservancy to reconstruct the West Campus Bluffs Trail has the District's support.

The proposed project will not only stabilize, but will enhance the existing pathway system and connect Isla Vista, an unincorporated residential and commercial neighborhood with popular recreation activities such as: surfing beaches, the UC Natural Reserve area at Coal Oil Point, and hiking trails in the vicinity of the Devereux Slough and Elwood Mesa ecosystems. The project also proposes to make the pathway ADA accessible and protects the sensitive native habitat area which the District fully endorses.

The West Campus Bluffs Trail will provide a tremendous benefit not only to the residents of the local community, but to the visitors who will have the opportunity to appreciate and treasure the wonderful ocean views and recreation activities that the area has to provide.

The District supports the funding request for the West Campus Bluff Trails project.

Sincerely,

Dale Sumersille
General Manager

**U. S. Department of the Interior
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WESTERN ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER**



Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman,
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

RE: West Campus Bluffs Trail
(File No. 07-022) May 24, 2007 agenda

May, 2, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to support the UCSB Associated Students Shoreline Preservation Fund's request for funds to repair and extend a coastal bluff-top trail. The bluffs and open space accessed by the path provide a much need place of solace and serenity for those that live in the debauched madness of Isla Vista. The trail is a model for non-automobile access to coastal resources, but for it to be suitable for continued bike and pedestrian use, it needs to be safe and maintained. I have been a supporter of SPF since its inception and they have done some remarkable projects over the years. Their approach provides a model for community involvement, volunteerism, research, and creativity that is unmatched in the University. I have also consulted frequently with the SPF grants manager, Scott Bull, about the environmentally friendly design of the path. It would be great if the Coastal Conservancy could contribute the funds needed to see this worthy project completed.

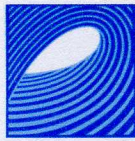
Sincerely,

Kevin D. Lafferty
Marine Biologist
United States Geological Survey

RECEIVED

MAY 07 2007

**COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.**



Surfrider Foundation

Santa Barbara Chapter

May 2, 2007

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: West Campus Bluffs Trail (File No. 07-022) May 24, 2007 agenda

Dear Mr. Bosco:

On behalf of the Santa Barbara Chapter Surfrider Foundation, I would like to express our strong support for reconstruction of the West Campus Bluff Trail, a segment of the California Coastal Trail, from Isla Vista to Coal Oil Point Reserve and Sands Beach.

The coastal bluff trail has always been popular with the Santa Barbara and densely populated Isla Vista community adjacent to this bluff top. The community heavily uses this area for recreation along the path and enjoyment of the outstanding views to and from Devereux and Sands Beach at Coal Oil Point. It provides the only free access to these exceptional surfing destinations, attracting hundreds of visitors daily. The area is not only highly popular for surf but also to the users to access the large open sandy beach, the only one in the general area.

The Coal Oil Point Reserve is also a huge attraction for the public. Largely undisturbed coastal dunes support a rich assemblage of dune vegetation. It is used by many university courses for field studies, and enjoyed by school children for field trips, birders and the general public. Thousands of migratory birds visit throughout the year and Coal Oil Point Reserve is part of Audubon's Important Bird Area (IBA).

Today, the path has become highly braided and rutted out, posing many safety hazards to the hundreds of daily walkers and bikers. Each winter, the area becomes virtually inaccessible and even more degraded. As users navigate muddy pools, the path becomes wider and sensitive bluff habitat is destroyed.

With proper resurfacing and a more defined trail, this popular and highly traveled blufftop will be safe for users all year long as well as ensure protection of sensitive bluff habitat.

Sincerely,

Scott Bull
Chair, Santa Barbara Chapter
Surfrider Foundation